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ABSTRACT

This report summarizes fall 1995 student enrollment in credit classes on the official census date (45th day of classes) at Pima Community College (PCC) in Arizona. The number of students (head count) and full-time student equivalents (FTSE) are categorized by campus and the time of day students attend classes. Comparisons with head count and FTSE data from the previous four years are displayed in tables and graphs. Time of day of attendance is compared to fall 1994 data. Figures indicate that PCC fall enrollments increased between 1991 and 1992, but have steadily declined thereafter, with district enrollment decreasing by 2,309 students between fall 1992 and fall 1995. The five-year pattern varied from campus to campus. An enrollment management plan at one campus that increased class size, reduced the number of class offerings, and changed some classes from credit to non-credit status is cited as a possible contributing factor for the decline. A noteworthy trend is the relatively greater decline in extended day enrollment (enrollment in any class taught after 5:00 p.m. or with a whole starting day of Friday, Saturday, or Sunday) throughout the district as compared to day enrollment. (PGS)

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Analysis of Fall 1995 Student Enrollment

Pima Community College

Institutional Research Office

November 1995

ED 448 822

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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This report summarizes Fall 1995 student enrollment in credit classes. The data reflect enrollments on the official census date (45th day of classes). The number of students (head count) and full-time student equivalents (FTSE) are categorized by campus and time of day attended. Comparisons with head count and FTSE data from the previous four years are displayed in tables and graphs. The time of day attended is compared to Fall 1994.

District Enrollment

Graph 1 and Table 1 depict the most recent five-year fall enrollment by both head count and FTSE. The unduplicated total district head count for Fall 1995 semester was 27,866, a decrease of 94 (<-1%) from the previous fall semester and the lowest head count enrollment in five years. The district FTSE was 13,978 in Fall 1995, also the lowest level in five years.

Graph 1. Head Count and FTSE of PCC Students in Fall Semesters

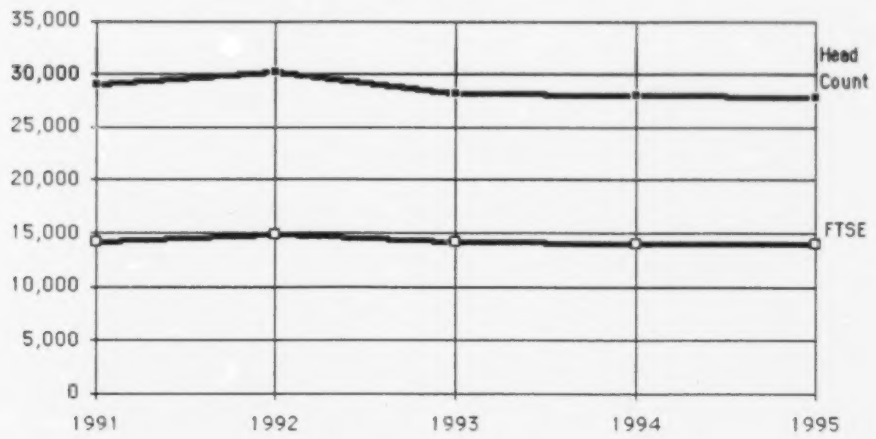

Table 1. Head Count and FTSE in Fall Semesters by Campus

Fall Semester	Community Campus [a]		Desert Vista Campus [a,b]		Downtown Campus [a]		East Campus [a]		West Campus [a]		Total District	
	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	%
1991												
Head Count	8,937	28%	1,226	3%	9,849	26%	5,231	14%	13,029	34%	29,088	
FTSE	2,336	17%	336	2%	3,584	25%	2,071	15%	5,783	41%	14,110	100%
1992												
Head Count	9,340	28%	1,638	4%	10,216	26%	5,196	13%	13,665	34%	30,175	
FTSE	2,604	18%	510	3%	3,625	24%	2,052	14%	6,050	41%	14,841	100%
1993												
Head Count	6,847	16%	2,071	6%	9,810	25%	5,010	14%	13,314	33%	28,268	
FTSE	1,986	14%	704	5%	3,521	25%	2,020	14%	5,972	42%	14,203	100%
1994												
Head Count	6,454	16%	2,179	6%	9,880	27%	5,101	14%	12,876	35%	27,960	
FTSE	1,882	13%	798	6%	3,584	25%	2,052	15%	5,691	41%	14,007	100%
1995												
Head Count	6,679	16%	2,106	6%	9,795	27%	5,124	14%	12,849	35%	27,866	
FTSE	2,021	14%	781	6%	3,519	25%	2,068	15%	5,589	40%	13,978	100%

[a] Campus enrollments do not sum to District total because total enrollment is unduplicated, but individual campus enrollments may include students who are concurrently enrolled at other campuses.

[b] Head Count and FTSE for Fall semesters for Desert Vista Campus does not include any Center for Training and Development students because they are reported annually.

[c] Percentages for head count calculated using sum of individual campus enrollments (duplicated head count) and not District (unduplicated head count) total.

Campus Head Count

Table 1 and Graph 2 depict the five-year head count enrollment by campus. The enrollment at both the Downtown and East Campus has remained fairly stable over the past five years. The recent growth at Desert Vista Campus tapered off in fall 1995. Desert Vista's headcount enrollment grew by 78% from 1991 to 1994 before declining 3%. In 1995, a two-year decline in

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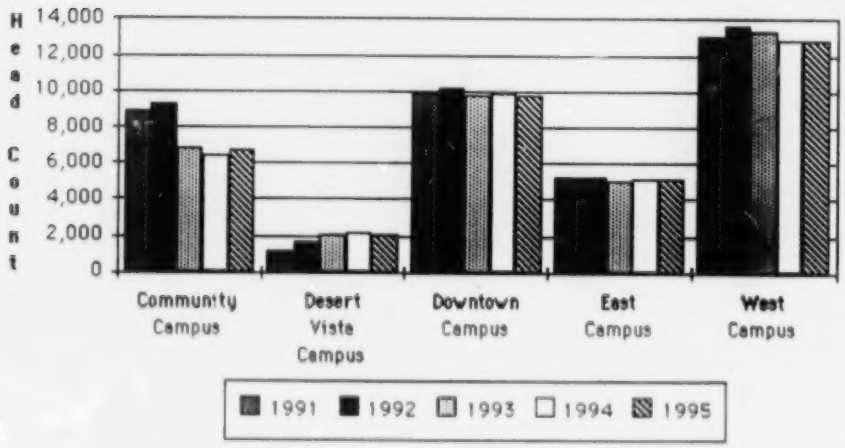
Community Campus head count enrollment was reversed. Community Campus' head count enrollment increased by 255 (3%) students from Fall 1994 to Fall 1995. Still, in 1995 the Community Campus accounted for 5% less of the College head count than it did in 1992. The West Campus head count has declined slightly every year since 1992, but still accounts for 35% of total district head count enrollment.

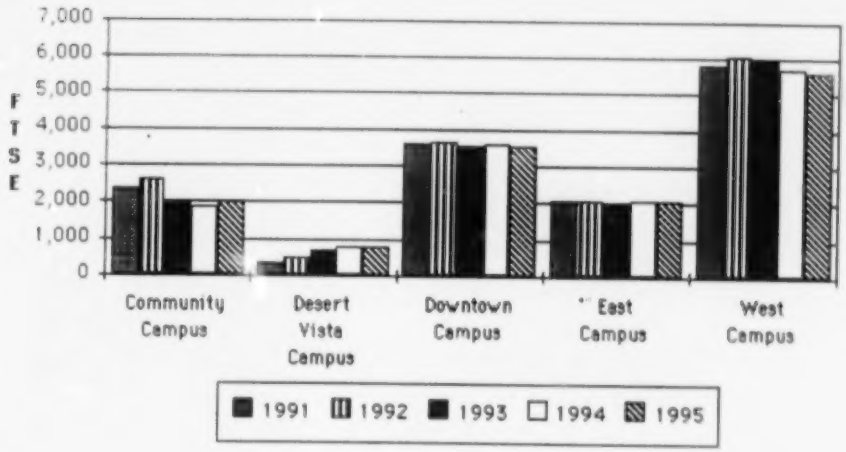
Graph 2. Head Count Enrollment for Fall Semesters by Campus and Year



Campus FTSE

Table 1 and Graph 3 show FTSE data. Campus semester FTSE is calculated by dividing the total credit hours by 15. Desert Vista, Downtown, and West Campuses each experienced a 2% decrease in FTSE in 1995. The Community Campus gained 139 FTSE for a 7% increase while the increase of 16 FTSE at the East Campus equals a 1% gain.

Graph 3. FTSE Enrollment for Fall Semesters by Campus and Year



As shown in Table 1, the enrollment at the West Campus generated over 40% of the district FTSE between 1991 and 1994. During this period, the percentage of FTSE produced by Desert Vista Campus increased from 3% to 6%. The percentage of District FTSE at the Downtown Campus and the East Campus remained stable during this five-year period. The Community Campus accounted for 18% of the College's FTSE in Fall 1992, but only 13% of the FTSE in Fall 1994. The enrollment increase in the fall 1995 semester at the Community Campus produced more FTSE so that the campus now accounts for 14% of the College's FTSE.

Time of Day Attended by Campus

Table 2 compares enrollment information from 1994 with 1995 by time of day attended. When examining these data, the reader should be aware that the *district head count does not equal the sum of the campus head counts*. A student is counted once at each campus attended and once in the district total. For example, a student may simultaneously enroll in a day course at the Downtown Campus and an extended day course at the Community Campus. This student would be categorized once as a day student at the Downtown Campus and once as an extended day student at the Community Campus. The district total, however, would count this student in the category, "both day and extended day enrollment."

Table 2. Number and Percentage of Students Enrolled in Fall 1995 Compared with Fall 1994 by Campus Responsibility and Day/Extended Day Enrollment

Time of Day Attended	Community Campus [a]		Desert Vista Campus [a,b]		Downtown Campus [a]		East Campus [a]		West Campus [a]		Total District	
	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	% [c]	N	%
Day												
1994	1,799	9%	1,037	5%	5,848	29%	2,879	14%	8,524	43%	13,289	
1995	2,242	11%	1,032	5%	5,766	29%	2,869	14%	8,639	42%	13,530	
1994 to 1995 Change	443	25%	-5	<-1%	-82	-1%	-10	<-1%	115	1%	241	2%
Extended Day												
1994	4,125	34%	862	7%	2,832	24%	1,498	13%	2,636	22%	8,238	
1995	3,843	34%	819	7%	2,796	25%	1,517	13%	2,432	23%	7,716	
1994 to 1995 Change	-282	-7%	-43	-5%	-36	-1%	19	1%	-204	-9%	-522	-6%
Both Day and Extended Day												
1994	530	12%	280	6%	1,200	27%	724	16%	1,716	39%	6,433	
1995	594	13%	255	5%	1,233	27%	738	16%	1,778	39%	6,620	
1994 to 1995 Change	64	12%	-25	-9%	33	3%	14	2%	62	4%	187	3%
Total Enrollment												
1994	6,454	18%	2,179	6%	9,880	27%	5,101	14%	12,876	35%	27,960	
1995	6,679	18%	2,106	6%	9,795	27%	5,124	14%	12,849	35%	27,866	
1994 to 1995 Change	225	3%	-73	-3%	-85	-1%	23	<1%	-27	<-1%	-94	<-1%

[a] Campus enrollments do not sum to District total because total enrollment is unduplicated, but individual campus enrollments may include students who are concurrently enrolled at other campuses.

[b] Head Count and FTSE for Fall semesters for Desert Vista Campus does not include any Center for Training and Development students because they are reported annually.

[c] Percentages for head count calculated using sum of individual campus enrollments (duplicated head count) and not District (unduplicated head count) total.

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There are differences among the campuses. The four brick-and-mortar campuses serve primarily day students. At these campuses, day students accounted for from just under one-half (Desert Vista) to more than two-thirds (West) of the enrollment. The Community Campus serves more extended day than day students, accounting for 34% of the District's extended day enrollment. However, in 1995 Community Campus served 25% more day students and 7% fewer extended day students than it did in 1994.

Table 3 displays the comparative enrollment for FTSE by campus for Fall 1994 and 1995. Day head count enrollment generated a higher proportion of FTSE than the extended day enrollment. Extended day enrollment (enrollment in any class taught after 5:00pm or whole starting day is Friday, Saturday or Sunday) has decreased for the District and for all campuses except the East Campus.

Table 3. Number and Percentage of Full-Time Student Equivalents (FTSE) in Fall 1995 Compared with Fall 1994 by Campus Responsibility and Day/Extended Day Enrollment

Enrollment Category	Community Campus		Desert Vista Campus [a]		Downtown Campus		East Campus		West Campus		Total District	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Day FTSE [b]												
1994	690	7%	502	5%	2,522	26%	1,478	15%	4,603	47%	9,795	100%
1995	872	9%	487	5%	2,473	25%	1,467	15%	4,568	46%	9,867	100%
1994 to 1995 Change	182	25%	-15	-3%	-49	-2%	-11	-1%	-35	-1%	72	1%
Extended Day FTSE [b]												
1994	1,192	28%	296	7%	1,062	25%	574	14%	1,088	26%	4,212	100%
1995	1,149	28%	294	7%	1,046	25%	601	15%	1,021	25%	4,111	100%
1994 to 1995 Change	-43	-4%	-2	-1%	-16	-2%	27	5%	-67	-6%	-101	-2%
Total FTSE [b]												
1994	1,882	13%	798	6%	3,584	25%	2,052	15%	5,691	41%	14,007	100%
1995	2,021	14%	781	6%	3,519	25%	2,068	15%	5,589	40%	13,978	100%
1994 to 1995 Change	139	7%	-17	-2%	-65	-2%	16	1%	-102	-2%	-29	<-1%

[a] Head Count and FTSE for Fall semesters for Desert Vista Campus does not include any Center for Training and Development students because they are reported annually.

[b] FTSE may be occasionally rounded so that summations are exact.

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Trends and Implications

PCC fall enrollments have steadily declined since Fall of 1992. During this time period, the District enrollment has decreased by 2,309 students.

Several factors appear to account for this change in District enrollment patterns. During this time, the Community Campus instituted an enrollment management plan that increased the minimum class size, reduced the number of class offerings, and converted some credit classes to community education non credit classes. The result has been a 31% decrease in the number of students taking credit courses at the Community Campus between 1992 and 1994. Despite a 3% growth in the head count at Community Campus in 1995, overall District enrollment continued to decline. The Desert Vista Campus which officially opened in Fall 1993 had its first enrollment decline (73 students, 3%) in five years. Enrollment changed by less than 1% at the other three campuses. Overall, the College enrolled 94 fewer students in 1995 than in the previous fall semester.

A major issue is whether the declines will continue or whether the decrease in enrollment is a temporary enrollment adjustment and will give way to more growth in the future. The positive economic outlook (more jobs) usually means a decrease in enrollment at the community college level. Since Tucson and Pima County are in an expanding economy, the College should expect a slow or no growth enrollment pattern. However, the enrollment pattern will differ by campus. The Community Campus will be expanding in enrollment as a balance to the earlier decreases.

A noteworthy trend is the decline in the extended day enrollment throughout the district. Safety concerns, availability of part-time evening employment for those seeking supplemental income, and cancellation of classes not meeting the minimum enrollment required may affect the extended day enrollment more significantly than the day enrollment. This trend of declining extended day enrollment impacts campuses differently. Overall, this trend and its impact on total enrollment needs to be addressed.

Summary

The Fall 1995 District head count and FTSE enrollment were slightly less (<-1%) than the previous Fall's figures. The enrollment pattern for the last five Fall semesters shows District enrollment increased between 1991 and 1992 but decreased thereafter. The five-year pattern varied from campus to campus.